

065 Guangzhou (China)

3.9 million inhabitants according to the UN's *Urban Agglomerations 2003*.

1. Territorial Levels, Population and Area

Name	Population	% of total	Area, km ²	Density, people/km ²
Guangzhou Urban Districts	*5,940,869	0.46 %	3,718	1,613 h/km ²
Guangzhou	*7,314,304	0.57 %	7,434	992 h/km ²
Guangdong Province	**78,590,000	6,11 %	177,900	441 h/km ²
China	**1,286,975,468	100 %	9,596,960	134 h/km ²

* Data provided by the Government of Guangzhou City

** Census data 2000, *National Bureau of Statistics*, China.

2. Administrative Designation and Number of Municipalities

Name	Designation	Number of Municipalities
Guangzhou	Guangzhou City <i>Guangzhou shi</i>	1 Prefecture City (<i>shi</i>). 8 Urban Districts: Yuexiu, Liwan, Tianhe, Haizhu, Baiyun, Huangpu, Luogang and Nansha 2 Suburban Districts: Huadu and Panyu. 2 County Cities: Conghua and Zengcheng. 118 Sub-districts 63 Villages
Guangdong Province	<i>Guangdong sheng</i>	1 Province 21 Prefecture City (<i>shi</i>) 121 County level administrations: 49 districts, 30 county cities and 45 counties 1.710 Local administrations
China	Popular Republic of China <i>Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo</i>	Four administrative levels: A) Provincial: 4 Municipalities with provincial status, 23 Provinces, 5 Autonomous Regions 2 Special Administrative Regions, B) Prefectural, 283 Prefecture Cities, 17 Prefectures, 30 Autonomous Prefectures, 3 Leagues C) County, 851 Districts 374 County Cities 1.465 Counties 117 Autonomous Counties 55 Other typologies D) Local: 44.067 local administrations (towns and villages).

3. Institutional framework and political powers

Guangzhou

People's Congress of Guangzhou

The People's Congress is the maximum organ of power in the City of Guangzhou (formerly Canton) and is part of the structure of the People's Congresses that is the form of organization of political power in the People's Republic of China. The members remain in the position for five years and are elected by the People's Congresses of the 12 districts that make up the city. The Congress is responsible for the implementation of laws and regulations in its territory. As a legislative chamber it can adopt resolutions and development plans and should supervise the agreements and activities of the People's Committees in its districts. Because Guangzhou is both a large city and the capital of the province, its People's Congress can adopt local regulations to respond to its political or economic specifications. The Congress also elects and removes the members of its Standing Committee, the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor.

Standing Committee of the People's Congress of Guangzhou

Its responsibilities include discussing and deciding on the administrative aspects of the city, supervising the government and mayor and reviewing and even canceling their decisions and those of subordinate level governments. The Committee appoints public servants, judges and attorneys. As well as the 40 members appointed by the People's Congress, the Committee also has a president and vice-president.

Mayor and People's Government of Guangzhou

The Mayor is elected by the People's Congress of Guangzhou for a period of five years. Two months after his or her appointment, the Mayor should propose the secretaries of the departments and directors of the government to the Standing Committee of the People's Congress so that the latter may approve them, and should also report the information to the Government of Guangdong. The Government of Guangzhou is responsible for the election and dismissal of the public servants in the administration, as well as the evaluation and improvement of the administration's performance in the city. By law, it carries out administrative tasks within its territory in the following areas: economy, education, science, culture, public health, urban development, security, civic affairs, judicial administration and family planning. Both the Mayor and the Government answer to the Standing Committee and the People's Congress of Guangzhou.

Guangzhou Public Companies

Guangzhou Development Industry (Holdings) Co., Ltd.

The company focuses on investing, constructing, managing and operating in such industries as power, energy logistics and infrastructure. The company has 16 wholly-owned (or holding) subsidiaries and 4 stock participated companies.

Guangzhou Metro

Company created in 1992, responsible for the construction, management and operation five metro lines in Guangzhou.

Province of Guangdong

People's Congress of Guangdong Province

This is the maximum organ of power in the province and also forms part of the system of People's Congresses in the People's Republic. The 780 members remain in office for a period of five years. The Congress is able to adopt provincial resolutions and development plans. It is responsible for the implementation of national laws and regulations in the province and thus supervises the activities of the People's Committees of: prefectures, counties and cities/counties. Because it is a Provincial People's Congress it can adopt provincial regulations adjusted to its needs. The Congress is responsible for the election and dismissal of the members of the Standing Committee of the Congress, the Governor and the Vice Governor.

Standing Committee of the People's Congress of Guangdong Province

The Standing Committee is led by a president and a vice-president and is made up of 67 members of the Congress dedicated exclusively to this task. It discusses and decides upon the administrative aspects of the People's Congress and supervises the activity of the Provincial Government and the Governor. It has authority to cancel their decisions and the decisions of dependent administrative levels. It is also charged with appointing public servants, judges and attorneys at the provincial level.

Governor and Government of Guangdong Province

The Governor is directly elected by the People's Congress of Guangdong Province for a period of five years. The Governor appoints the 26 members of the government (heads of departments) who are approved by the People's Congress of the Province and the State Council of the Republic. The Government has 24 departments and organizations, responsible for the following administrative areas: trade, education, science and technology, security, justice, employment, territory management, building, communication, water resources, culture, health, agriculture and fisheries, sports, the environment and tourism. It also has authority over the territorial administrative structure in the province. The Government answers to the Standing Committee and the People's Congress of Guangdong Province.

People's Republic of China

President

Head of State. Functions: sanctioning laws, establishing orders (e.g., states of emergency), appointing senior political positions (PM, ministers, etc.) and foreign representatives. Appointed by the Presidium of the National People's Congress (NPC).

National People's Congress (*Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui*)

The main responsibilities include approving laws and constitutional reforms; granting the status of autonomous region and municipality; choosing and removing the President and Vice President of the Republic, the members of the NPC Standing Committee and other senior public servants; approving economic plans and State budgets. Made up of 2,984 members elected by territories, provinces, municipalities and the armed forces for five-year mandates. The NPC is obliged by the statute to meet once a year.

NPC Standing Committee

This is the permanent organ of the NPC and carries out its functions when the NPC is not in session. It interprets the Constitution and thus supervises its implementation, canceling acts by the State Council that contravene it. When the NPC is not in session, the Standing Committee sanctions important laws; exercises legislative functions and economic planning functions in line with the matters approved by the NPC; supervises the activity of the main organs of the State and cancels local regulations and acts that do not meet the legislation. The Standing Committee is made up of 159 members elected from among the members of the NPC. The members of the Committee cannot combine this institutional responsibility with any other work.

State Council

This is the maximum administrative organ and acts as the executive power in the Republic. Its main functions include authority over the regulation development of the Constitution and laws; leading the central, local and regional administrations and managing the economic development plan. It is made up of the Prime Minister, the Vice President and 28 ministries. All the 40 members are elected by the NPC upon the proposal of the President of the Republic.

4. Relevant websites and online documents

Guangzhou City Government <http://www.guangzhou.gov.cn>

Guangdong Province <http://www.gd.gov.cn>

News Guangdong <http://www.newsgd.com/>

Popular Republic of China <http://www1.china.org.cn/english/index.htm>

Guangzhou Development Industry (Holdings) Co., Ltd.:
<http://www.gdih.cn/english/index.asp>

Guangzhou Metro: <http://www.gzmtr.com>